A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 E06B9/68 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. Α US 1 837 129 A (MAPLES JACK B) 1 15 December 1931 (1931-12-15) the whole document FR 2 660 957 A (COURREGES Α 1 FRANCIS; MARCELLINI DANIEL) 18 October 1991 (1991-10-18) the whole document DE 8 807 C (LUCKAU) Α 1 20 June 1879 (1879-06-20) the whole document DE 44 28 983 A (RUETH ERICH) Α 1 22 February 1996 (1996-02-22) column 4, line 18 -column 5, line 9; figures 4,5 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. X Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means in the art. document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&* document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 02/08/2004 26 July 2004 Authorized officer Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 Tel. (+31-70) 340-3016 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

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